

LESSONS 7 AND 8

Before and After

LESSON 7

Praemonitus, praemunitus.
Forewarned is forearmed.

Key Words		
antebellum	precept	premonition
antecedent	predestination	preposterous
anterior	preempt	pretentious
avant-garde		vanguard

Familiar Words
advance
ancient

ANTE <L. "before"

1. **antebellum** (ăn' tē bēl'əm) [*bellum* <L. "war"]
adj. Of a period before a war, especially the American Civil War.

Gone with the Wind describes life in **antebellum** Georgia.

2. **antecedent** (ăn' tə sēd'ənt) [*cedere* <L. "to go"]
n. 1. A thing or event that precedes.

The Anglo-Saxon word *hlaf*, meaning "bread," is the **antecedent** of the modern word *loaf*.

Challenge Words

ante
antedate
antediluvian
ante meridiem
anteroom

2. (grammar) The noun to which a pronoun refers.

In "She took a book and read it," book is the **antecedent** of it.

adj. Preceding; going before.

Writing the final paper was **antecedent** to his passing the class.

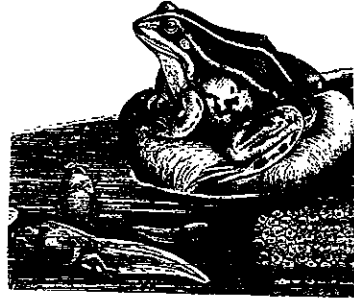
antecede, *v.*; **antecedently**, *adv.*

3. **anterior** (ăn tîr'ē ər)

adj. Coming before in position or time.

The aquatic larval stage of a tadpole is **anterior** to the full-grown state of a frog.

anteriorly, *adv.*



4. **avant-garde** (ă'vânt gärd)

adj. Ahead of the times, especially in the arts.

Although considered extremely **avant-garde** in the nineteenth century, Impressionist paintings are now so popular that they appear on calendars and greeting cards.

n. A group that is ahead of the times.

Fashions worn only by the **avant-garde** are seen everywhere after a few years.

5. **vanguard** (văn'gärd) [short for French *avant garde*]

n. 1. The foremost position, especially of an army or fleet.

At Agincourt, English archers decimated the French **vanguard** of mounted knights in armor.

2. Leaders of a movement, fashion, etc.

The **vanguard** of the French Revolution discarded their powdered wigs and wore their hair naturally.



Familiar Words

precaution
precede
predict
prefix
premium
preoccupied
prepare
preposition
prescribe
preside
presume
pretend
prevail
prevent

Challenge Words

preamble
precinct
precipitate
précis
precocious
preconceive
preeminent
premise
preponderant
prerequisite
prerogative
prescience
prevalent
prevaricate

PRE <L. "before"

6. **precept** (prē'sēpt) [*capere* <L. "to take"]
n. A command; a rule of conduct.

Although his parents tried to teach him the **precepts** of good manners, he remained tactless and inconsiderate.

preceptive, *adj.*

7. **predestination** (prē dēs'tə nā'shən) [*destinare* <L. "to determine"]
n. The belief that what happens in human life has already been determined by some higher power.

The couple felt that **predestination** had brought them together.

predestinate, *v.*; **predestine**, *v.*; **predestined**, *adj.*

8. **preempt, pre-empt** (prē ĕmpt') [*emere* <L. "to buy"]
tr. v. To take possession of something before anyone else can do so.

The president's address **preempted** regular broadcasts.

preemption, *n.*; **preemptive**, *adj.*

9. **premonition** (prē'mə nīsh'ən, prēm'ə nīsh'ən)
[*monere* <L. "to warn"]
n. A warning in advance.

As she picked up the letter, she had a **premonition** that it carried bad news.

premonitory, *adj.*

10. **preposterous** (prī pōs'tər əs) [*post* <L. "after"]

adj. Absurd; contrary to nature or reason.

The tightly-laced corsets of the nineteenth century seem **preposterous** to active modern women.

preposterously, *adv.*; **preposterousness**, *n.*

11. **pretentious** (prī tēn'shəs) [*tendere* <L. "to extend"]
adj. Showy; pompous; claiming unjustified distinction.

They chose a hotel with **pretentious** furnishings but little comfort.

pretension, *n.*; **pretentiously**, *adv.*; **pretentiousness**, *n.*

